

Dieu, Martin

From: Teel, Pam
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 11:20 AM
To: Kasman, Mark
Cc: Almodovar, Lisa; Dieu, Martin; Troche, Luis
Subject: RE: Mtg w former pm Stephen harper
Attachments: Adm Pruitt Briefing Doc_Former Canada PM Harper.docx

Attached is the briefer, with the bio.

Pam

-----Original Message-----

From: Kasman, Mark
Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 7:31 PM
To: Teel, Pam <Teel.Pam@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Mtg w former pm Stephen harper

Pam,

Please prepare a draft briefing note by Thursday afternoon.

Thanks, Mark

-----Original Message-----

From: Nishida, Jane
Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 7:25 PM
To: Kasman, Mark <Kasman.Mark@epa.gov>; Teel, Pam <Teel.Pam@epa.gov>
Cc: Dieu, Martin <Dieu.Martin@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Mtg w former pm Stephen harper

The Administrator will be meeting with former Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper on Monday, March 27 at 4:30pm. We need to put together a short briefing paper - think we can say it is a meet and greet, list the attendees, and for background, mention that EPA worked with the Harper Administration on the AQA, GLWA, CEC as we are doing now under the Trudeau Administration, then attach bio of Harper. Thanks.

-----Original Message-----

From: Smotkin, Rick [mailto:Rick_Smotkin@Comcast.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 5:33 PM
To: Hupp, Sydney <hupp.sydney@epa.gov>
Cc: Nishida, Jane <Nishida.Jane@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Mtg w former pm Stephen harper

Will have two staff. Jeremy hunt and Shuvaloy Majumdar.

Where should they go? Thanks so much

Rick Smotkin
SVP Global Government Affairs
Comcast

Sent from my iPhone

> On Mar 22, 2017, at 5:24 PM, Hupp, Sydney <hupp.sydney@epa.gov> wrote:

>

> Yes. Is he coming solo?

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Smotkin, Rick [mailto:Rick_Smotkin@Comcast.com]

> Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 5:23 PM

> To: Hupp, Sydney <hupp.sydney@epa.gov>

> Cc: Nishida, Jane <Nishida.Jane@epa.gov>

> Subject: Re: Mtg w former pm Stephen harper

>

> 430 good?

>

> Rick Smotkin

> SVP Global Government Affairs

> Comcast

>

> Sent from my iPhone

>

>> On Mar 22, 2017, at 5:18 PM, Hupp, Sydney <hupp.sydney@epa.gov> wrote:

>>

>> Thanks!

>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Smotkin, Rick [mailto:Rick_Smotkin@Comcast.com]

>> Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 5:17 PM

>> To: Hupp, Sydney <hupp.sydney@epa.gov>

>> Cc: Nishida, Jane <Nishida.Jane@epa.gov>

>> Subject: Re: Mtg w former pm Stephen harper

>>

>> Yep. Let me see what time works best for Harper. Thanks!

>>

>> Rick Smotkin

>> SVP Global Government Affairs

>> Comcast

>>

>> Sent from my iPhone

>>

>>> On Mar 22, 2017, at 5:16 PM, Hupp, Sydney <hupp.sydney@epa.gov> wrote:

>>>

>>> 30 minutes okay?

>>>

>>> -----Original Message-----

>>> From: Smotkin, Rick [mailto:Rick_Smotkin@Comcast.com]

>>> Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 5:15 PM

>>> To: Hupp, Sydney <hupp.sydney@epa.gov>

>>> Subject: Re: Mtg w former pm Stephen harper

>>>

>>> Just a meet and greet. Harper is former conservative prime minister of Canada. So just a good person for him to meet

>>>

>>> Rick Smotkin

>>> SVP Global Government Affairs

>>> Comcast

>>>

>>> Sent from my iPhone

>>>

>>>> On Mar 22, 2017, at 5:14 PM, Hupp, Sydney <hupp.sydney@epa.gov> wrote:

>>>>

>>>> Thank you! What is the topic? Could maybe do afternoon on Monday?

>>>>

>>>> -----Original Message-----

>>>> From: Smotkin, Rick [mailto:Rick_Smotkin@Comcast.com]

>>>> Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 5:13 PM

>>>> To: Hupp, Sydney <hupp.sydney@epa.gov>

>>>> Subject: Re: Mtg w former pm Stephen harper

>>>>

>>>> Yep. We texted. Thanak

>>>>

>>>> Rick Smotkin

>>>> SVP Global Government Affairs

>>>> Comcast

>>>>

>>>> Sent from my iPhone

>>>>

>>>>> On Mar 22, 2017, at 5:12 PM, Hupp, Sydney <hupp.sydney@epa.gov> wrote:

>>>>>

>>>>> Hey Rick, you already spoke with Admin. Pruitt about this? Looking at Monday now... Thanks!

>>>>>

>>>>> -----Original Message-----

>>>>> From: Smotkin, Rick [mailto:Rick_Smotkin@Comcast.com]

>>>>> Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 10:59 AM

>>>>> To: Hupp, Sydney <hupp.sydney@epa.gov>

>>>>> Subject: Mtg w former pm Stephen harper

>>>>>

>>>>> Hi there

>>>>>

>>>>> Been texting w the boss. What times would be best on Monday to make this happen?

>>>>>

>>>>> Thanks

>>>>>

>>>>> Rick Smotkin

>>>>> SVP Global Government Affairs

>>>>> Comcast

>>>>>

>>>>> Sent from my iPhone

>>>>>

>>>>>

>>>>> Rick Smotkin

>>>>> SVP Global Government Affairs

>>>> Comcast
>>>>
>>>> Sent from my iPhone
>

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Washington D.C.

Briefing Document for Administrator Pruitt

**MEETING WITH STEPHEN HARPER,
FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA**

DATE: March 27, 2017

LOCATION: Administrator's Office

MEETING TIME: 4:30 – 5:00 PM

I. PURPOSE and BACKGROUND

YOU will be meeting with the former Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper. Harper is a former conservative prime minister of Canada and proposed this meeting.

Under the Harper administration (2006-2015), EPA cooperated with its Canadian counterpart agency, then Environment Canada, under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA), the Air Quality Agreement, and the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation, among other U.S.-Canada agreements.

The GLWQA, first signed in 1972 and amended in 1983 and 1987, was updated in 2012 to enhance water quality programs that ensure the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Great Lakes by facilitating actions on threats to water quality in the lakes and to strengthen measures to anticipate and prevent ecological harm. This included new provisions to address aquatic invasive species, habitat degradation and the effects of climate change, and support continued work on existing threats to people's health and the environment in the Great Lakes Basin such as harmful algae, toxic chemicals, and discharges from vessels.

II. KEY ASKS OR MESSAGES

- Thank Mr. Harper for his visit and congratulate him on a successful career as leader of the Canadian government for nine years.

III. PARTICIPANTS

External Attendees

- Stephen Harper, former Prime Minister of Canada
- Jeremy Hunt
- Shuvaloy Majumdar

EPA Staff

- YOU
- *tbd*
- Jane Nishida, OITA

IV. AGENDA: This is a meet and greet and there is no set agenda for the meeting.

V. PRESS: This is a closed meeting with no press.

VI. ATTACHMENTS: Biography for Stephen Harper is attached.

EPA Staff Contact: Jane Nishida, Office of International and Tribal Affairs, 202-564-1531

Biography – The Right Honorable Stephen Harper

Canadian Conservative Party leader Stephen Harper served as prime minister of Canada from 2006 to 2015.

Synopsis

Born in Toronto in 1959, Stephen Harper earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in economics at the University of Calgary. Following multiple terms in the House of Commons, he became prime minister of Canada in 2006. Harper was a proponent of lower taxes and an enlarged military, his standing strengthened when his Conservative Party earned a majority in the 2011 federal election. In 2015 Harper tenure as prime minister came to an end when he was defeated by Liberal candidate Justin Trudeau.



Early Life

Following his High School graduation in 1978, Harper moved to Alberta and worked in the petroleum industry for three years before attending the University of Calgary, where he received both a bachelor's degree (1985) and a master's degree (1991) in economics. During this period, he also began his political career, working as the executive assistant to Calgary's Progressive Conservative MP Jim Hawkes. By 1986, however, Harper had become disillusioned with the political landscape, in large part due to the region's seemingly diminished importance in relation to national affairs. That year, he left Hawkes's side, and the following year he was involved in the founding of a new political party to address his and others' concerns, the socially conservative Reform Party of Canada.

Political Rise

With a career focused on politics and public policy analysis, Harper moved up the ranks of the Reform Party, and in 1993, he was elected to the Canadian House of Commons as its candidate. That same year he married Laureen Teskey, with whom he has two children, Benjamin and Rachel.

After a falling out with Reform leader Preston Manning, Harper decided not to seek reelection in the 1997 race, and he eventually took the reins of the National Citizens Coalition, a right-wing lobbyist group. The Coalition was based on a philosophical foundation of low taxes and free-market capitalism, and also opposed the Canadian government's response to the separatist movement in Quebec. In the face of a favorable political landscape, Harper resigned as president of the coalition in the summer of 2001 and soon declared his candidacy to lead the Canadian Alliance Party, the successor to the Reform Party.

Victory in the winter election ensued, and in early 2002, Harper headed to Parliament under the Alliance Party banner. Just a few years later, the political winds had shifted again, and the Alliance Party merged with the Progressive Conservative Party to form the new Conservative Party, of which Harper took the leadership position in 2004.

Prime Minister Harper

As a Conservative candidate, and with a minority government, Harper was sworn in as Canada's 22nd prime minister in February 2006, bringing to an end a 13-year liberal government. He proved to be a

staunch proponent of laissez-faire capitalism, smaller government and social conservatism. The neoconservative mindset of the Harper administration also focused on reducing taxes, enlarging the military and securing Arctic waters for their energy resources is credited with having steered the Canadian economy through the 2008 financial crisis. In foreign affairs, Harper's government was strongly pro-Israel and launched Canada's combat mission in Afghanistan, while at home it took a more hard-line approach to crime and significantly increased funding for the prison system.

In March 2011, Harper's administration was found to be in contempt of Parliament for having withheld financial information related to its activities, and a general election was called for May 2. However, Harper came out the other side with a majority government (166 seats), his position more secure than before the forced election. Following this endorsement, Harper's government continued with its efforts to reduce government and spending and also introduced a controversial bill that allowed for greater domestic surveillance amidst growing concerns about terrorism. It also backed away from the Kyoto Protocol, choosing instead to implement more relaxed climate-change policies that drew harsh criticism from environmental groups.